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INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE
FOR THE ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN
THOSE COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING SERIOUS
DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION,
PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA
Fourth session
Geneva, 21-31 March 1994
Working Group II
Agenda item 2

ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA

Draft report of Working Group II

Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur: Mr. Frederick E.G. MALLYA
(United Republic of Tanzania)

A. Organization of work

1. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 21 March 1994, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, in accordance with its decision 2/1 of 13 September 1993, allocated item 2 of its agenda, entitled "Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa" to the working groups. Working Group II would be responsible for the elaboration of such provisions as definitions, institutional, administrative, technological and scientific aspects; research, data collection and exchange information; procedural arrangements and other legal provisions such as any instruments related to the convention.

2. At the 1st meeting, the Working Group approved its programme of work for 21 to 31 March 1994. Subsequently it held ... formal and ... informal meetings during that period.

3. Working Group II had before it for its consideration the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretariat on the revised negotiating text of the Convention (A/AC.241/15/Rev.1);

(b) Note by the Secretariat on the negotiating text of a regional implementation annex for Africa (A/AC.241/19).

B. Discussion of topics

1. Definitions

First reading (A/AC.241/15/Rev.1, article 1)

4. Working Group II considered the topic at its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 21 and 22 March.

5. Statements were made by the representatives of 26 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

Second reading

6. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its 9th and 10th meetings, on 25 and 28 March.

7. Statements were made by the representatives of 16 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

2. Information collection, analysis and exchange

First reading (A/AC.241/15/Rev.1, article 18)

8. Working Group II considered the topic at its 2nd meeting, on 22 March.

9. Statements were made by the representatives of 25 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

Second reading

10. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its 9th and 10th meetings, on 25 and 28 March.

11. Statements were made by the representatives of 11 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union and one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States.

3. Research and development

First reading (A/AC.241/15/Rev.1, article 19)

12. Working Group II considered the topic at its 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 22 March.

13. Statements were made by the representatives of 21 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

Second reading

14. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its ... meeting, on ... March.

15. Statements were made by the representatives of ... States, including one speaking on behalf of ... and one speaking on behalf of ... .

4. Transfer, acquisition, adaptation and development of technology

First reading (A/AC.241/15/Rev.1, article 20)

16. Working Group II considered the topic at its 3rd meeting, on 22 March.

17. Statements were made by the representatives of 15 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, and China, and one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States.

Second reading

18. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its ... meeting, on ... March.

19. Statements were made by the representatives of ... States, including one speaking on behalf of ... and one speaking on behalf of ... .

5. Institutions

First reading (A/AC.241/15/Rev.1, articles 24-27)

20. Working Group II considered the topic at its 4th and 5th meetings, on 23 March.

21. Statements were made by the representatives of 29 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, and China, one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

22. An observer of a non-governmental organization made a statement.

Second reading

23. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its 9th and 19th meetings, on 25 and 28 March.

24. Statements were made by the representatives of 18 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, and China, and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

6. Procedures and final clauses

First reading (A/AC.241/15/Rev.1, articles 28-42)

25. Working Group II considered the topic at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 24 March.

26. Statements were made by the representatives of 19 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

Second reading

27. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its ... meeting, on ... March.

28. Statements were made by the representatives of ... States, including one speaking on behalf of ... and one speaking on behalf of ... .

7. Regional implementation annexes

First reading (A/AC.241/15/Rev.1, article 17)

29. Working Group II considered the topic at its 7th meeting, on 24 March.

30. Statements were made by the representatives of six States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

Second reading

31. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its ... meeting, on ... March.

32. Statements were made by the representatives of ... States, including one speaking on behalf of ... and one speaking on behalf of ... .

8. Implementation annex for Africa

First reading (A/AC.241/19)

33. Working Group II considered the topic at its 7th to ... meetings, from 24 to ... March.

34. Statements were made by the representatives of ... States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

35. An observer of a non-governmental organization made a statement.

Second reading

36. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its ... meeting, on ... March.

37. Statements were made by the representatives of ... States, including one speaking on behalf of ... and one speaking on behalf of ... .

9. Adoption of the report

38. At its ... meeting, on ... March, the Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur, Mr. Frederick E.G. Mallya, introduced the draft report (A/AC.241/WG.II/L...).

39. At the same meeting, the Working Group adopted the draft report [as amended].